

VZCZCXYZ0001
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHRBA #2157 3251703
ZNR UUUUU ZZH ZUI RUEWCSE4994 3251655
P 211703Z NOV 06
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
INFO ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS RABAT 002157

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [LE](#) [MO](#)
SUBJECT: ATTENDANCE AT LEBANON'S NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

REF: STATE 189539

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED. PLEASE PROTECT ACCORDINGLY.

11. (SBU) POLOFF MET WITH HASSAN HAMI, OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR ARAB AND ISLAMIC AFFAIRS AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON NOVEMBER 21 TO URGE THAT MOROCCO NOT SEND ITS AMBASSADOR TO THE NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION HOSTED BY PRESIDENT LAHOUD AND URGED THAT MOROCCO ESCHEW THE EVENT ALTOGETHER IF PRIME MINISTER SENIORA IS NOT ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EVENT (REFTEL). HAMI PROMISED TO CONVEY THE U.S. MESSAGE TO THE MINISTER'S OFFICE, WHICH WOULD HAVE TO APPROVE ANY SUCH INSTRUCTION TO MOROCCO'S EMBASSY IN BEIRUT. OFFERING A PERSONAL OPINION, HAMI THOUGHT MOROCCOS AMBASSADOR "WOULD BE HARD-PRESSED TO TURN DOWN A DIRECT INVITATION FROM THE PRESIDENT" FOR THIS EVENT IN THE ABSENCE OF CONSENSUS AMONG ARAB STATES ON SUCH AN ACTION.

VISIT EMBASSY RABAT'S CLASSIFIED WEBSITE;
[HTTP://WWW.STATE.SGOV.GOV/P/NEA/RABAT](http://WWW.STATE.SGOV.GOV/P/NEA/RABAT)

RILEY